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Imagery analysis report

Newly Identified Ground Forces
Units in the Ural Military
District, USSR (S)

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NEWLY IDENTIFIED GROUND FORCES UNITS IN THE URAL MILITARY DISTRICT, USSR (S)

1. (S/D) The T-55 tank regiment of the 78th Motorized Rifle Division (MRD)¹ and an army/corps-level engineer regiment were identified during 1980 at Chebarkul Headquarters MRD/Army Barracks AL-1 [] Figures 1 and 2), USSR. The tank regiment housed at Kazanskiy Army Barracks/Training Area AL-1 [] was previously reported as subordinate to the 78th MRD in the Ural Military District (MD).¹ [] this regiment at Kazanskiy is now believed to be associated with the Chelyabinsk Higher Tank Command School (I/N of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Great October),² which supports officer training and is headquartered at Chelyabinsk Army Barracks Stadium AL-4 [] Figure 3).

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2. (S/D) The presence of the tank regiment at Chebarkul indicated that all the maneuver units of this training MRD are housed at Chebarkul AL-1. The army/corps-level engineer regiment at Chebarkul was previously reported as the divisional engineer battalion. The divisional engineer battalion, however, may be collocated with this engineer regiment. Additional units observed at Chebarkul AL-1 included a second-generation MRD; an army/corps-level artillery brigade, and an SA-2 regiment which is probably associated with elements of an antiaircraft artillery division housed at Chelyabinsk Army Barracks AL-2 [] since 1973.

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3. (S/D) Kazanskiy AL-1 is probably the training area for the Chelyabinsk Higher Tank School at Chelyabinsk Army Barracks Stadium AL-4. The tank regiment at Kazanskiy AL-1 consists of an intermixture of T-55, T-62, and T-64/-72 medium tanks (Figure 4). The mixture of medium tanks in the same regiment has been observed at Chirchik Army Barracks AL-6/Tank School Rybalko [] in the Turkestan MD, Omsk Army Barracks and School AL-6 [] in the Siberian MD, and Ulyanovsk Army/SAM Training Area North TA-1 (BE [] in the Volga MD in conjunction with tank officer training schools. As an example, Ulyanovsk TA-1 supports the Ulyanovsk Tank Officer's Candidate School [] 7 miles away in the city of Ulyanovsk.

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4. (S/D) Kazanskiy AL-1 also houses an engineer unit, a signal unit, and a probable nondivisional maintenance unit. Kazanskiy AL-1 has a covered vehicle storage capacity for 64 vehicles and a very small barracks/administration area (Figure 5). Reservists and officers brought in for training must be housed in tents or at separate locations, indicating that Kazanskiy AL-1 is associated with the school in Chelyabinsk.

5. (S/D) Kazanskiy AL-1 is approximately 24 nautical miles (nm) southwest of Chelyabinsk AL-2 and approximately 13 nm east of Chebarkul AL-1. The training areas for both installations are adjacent to one another and appear to be part of a MD-level, combined-arms training facility.

IMAGERY ANALYST'S COMMENTS

6. (S/D) Based on photographic evidence, a primary mission of the interior MDs is training. Numerous training schools are in the Ural and Volga MDs, but the school at Chelyabinsk AL-4, in conjunction with the training at Kazanskiy AL-1, is the first tank officer's candidate school and training area identified in the Ural MD.

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DOCUMENTS

1. DIA. DDB-1100-UR-81, *Ground Order of Battle: USSR (U)*, Jan 81 (SECRET [REDACTED])

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2. DIA. DDB-2680-52-72, *Soviet Military Schools*, p E64, 1978 (UNCLASSIFIED)

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [REDACTED]
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FIGURE 1. LOCATIONS OF NEWLY IDENTIFIED GROUND FORCES UNITS IN URAL MILITARY DISTRICT, USSR

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